

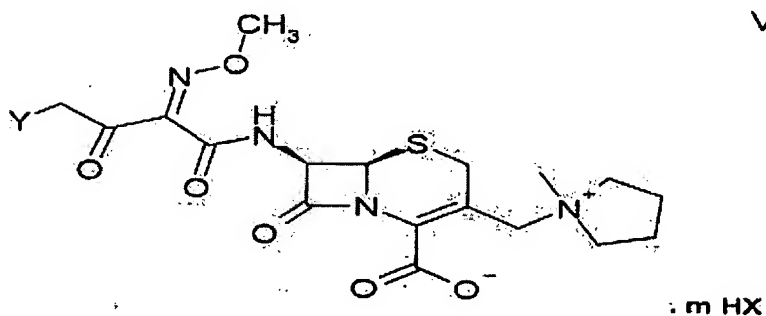
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 – 2. (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented). A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein pyrrolidinium-1-[(7-amino-2-carboxy-8-oxo-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-en-yl)methyl]-iodide monohydrate is used.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented). A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein pyrrolidinium-1-[(7-amino-2-carboxy-8-oxo-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-en-yl)methyl]-chloride or pyrrolidinium-1-[(7-amino-2-carboxylato-8-oxo-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-en-yl)methyl]-dihydrochloride is used, optionally in solvated hydrated form.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). A compound of formula V



wherein Y and X are Cl and wherein m=1.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented). A compound as claimed in claim 5 having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 1.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). A process according to claim 20, wherein 4-chloro-2-methoxyimino-3-oxo-butyryl chloride is used as the reactive derivative of formula III.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented). A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the step of isolating the compound of formula I comprises the step of removing any bromide or iodide ions that may be present by ion exchange and the step of precipitating or

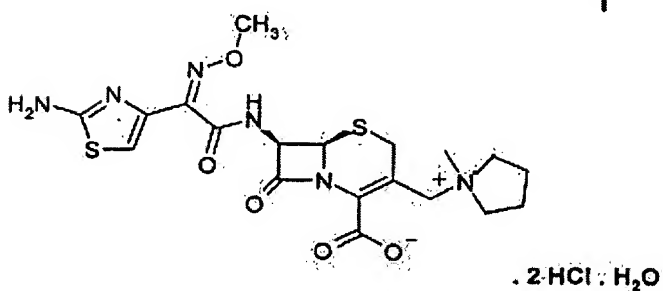
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crystallizing the compound of formula I after addition of hydrochloric acid from an aqueous acetonitrile solution.

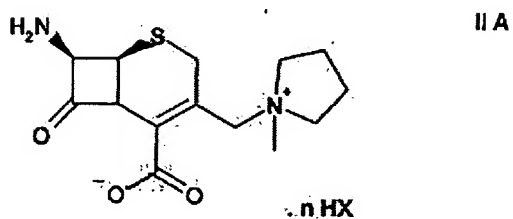
Claims 10 – 19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended). A process for producing a compound of formula

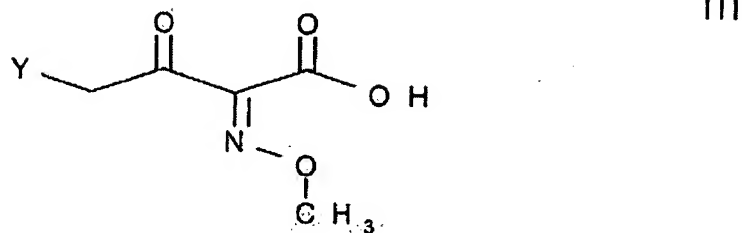
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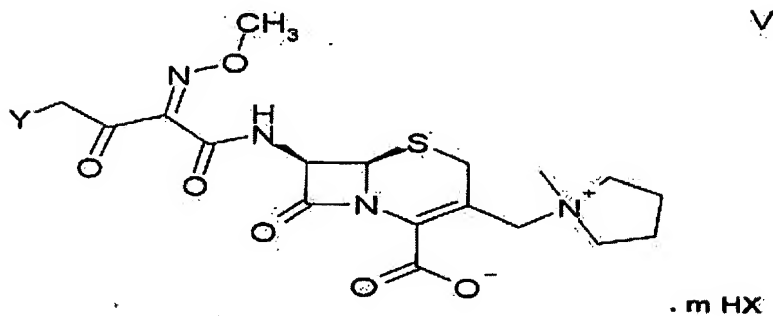
wherein a compound of formula IIA, or a hydrate of a compound of formula IIA,



wherein n is 1 or 2 and X signifies chloride, bromide or iodide,
is reacted with a reactive derivative of formula III



wherein Y signifies halogen, to form a compound of formula V



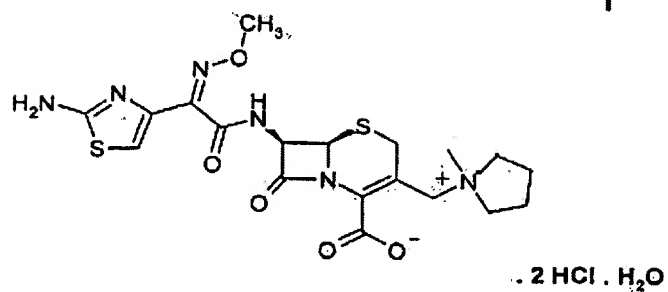
wherein m is 1 and wherein optionally the compound of formula V, wherein m is 1, is isolated,

wherein the compound of formula V is cyclised with thiourea in an aqueous or organic-aqueous medium and optionally ~~salt that is present is removed and~~ hydrochloric acid is added ~~from~~ in an aqueous acetonic solution and salt that is present is then removed, and wherein the compound of formula I is subsequently isolated.

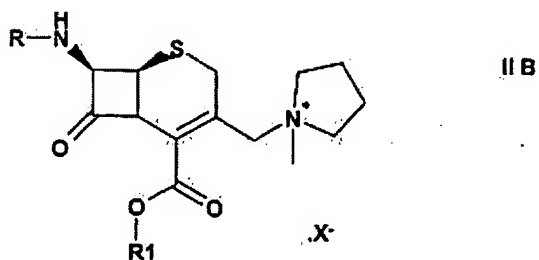
Claim 21 (Currently Amended). A process for producing a compound of formula

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wherein a compound of formula IIB



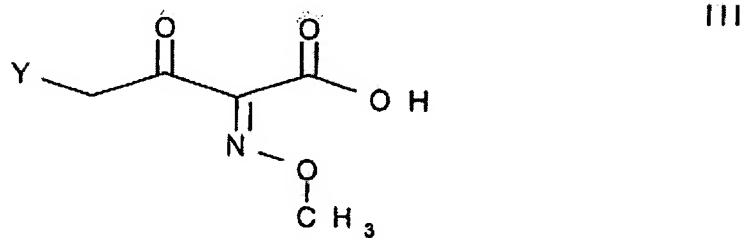
wherein

R₁ is a trialkylsilyl group,

R is hydrogen or a trialkylsilyl group, and

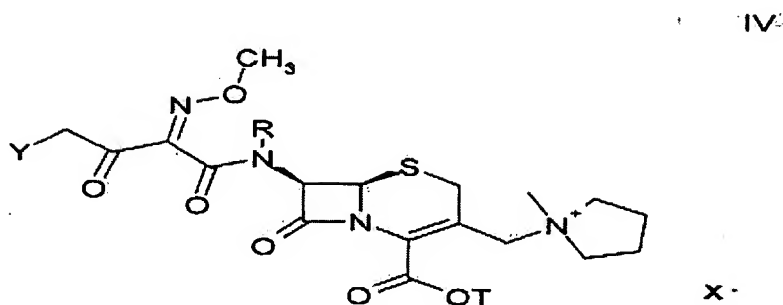
X signifies chloride, bromide or iodide

is reacted with a reactive derivative of formula III

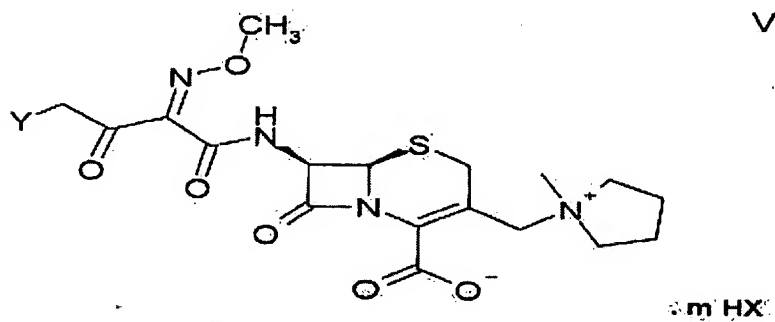


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wherein Y signifies halogen, to form a compound of formula IV



wherein T is trialkylsilyl, the silyl protecting group is removed to form a compound of the formula V, and wherein the compound of formula V, wherein m is 1, is cyclized, and



optionally after the compound of formula V has been isolated, ~~wherein the compound of formula V is cyclized~~ with thiourea in an aqueous or organic-aqueous medium and optionally salt that is present is removed and hydrochloric acid is added from in an aqueous acetonitrile solution and salt that is present is then removed, and wherein the compound of formula I is subsequently isolated.